



Master Resource List

Federal Student Aid Information Center

Provides counselors, students, and families with information about federal financial aid programs and answers questions about financial aid and completing the FAFSA.

1-800-4-FED-AID or 1-800-433-3243, 1-800-730-8913 (TTY)

Websites

financialaidtoolkit.ed.gov/

The *Financial Aid Toolkit* provides basic college access and financial aid information for middle school, high school, and TRIO counselors. Features include the *Counselors and Mentors Handbook*, other federal student aid publications (with instructions on how to download or order them), training information, and scripts and slides for presenting a financial aid night. Click on “Network & Potential Partnerships” in the Counselor Resources section to learn about associations that support your work and to access a search tool to help you find TRIO programs around the country.

What you can download or print from this site:

- Counselors and Mentors Handbook;
- Finding Money for College, a PowerPoint presentation introducing basic concepts of financial aid and the FAFSA process;
- Application Checklist, which allows students to track their applications for financial aid;
- Application Form Tracking Worksheet, which allows students to track the various pieces of their college applications;
 - *Award Package Comparison Worksheet*, which allows students to compare and contrast financial aid award letters from various colleges;
 - *Cost of Attendance Comparison Worksheet*, which allows students to compare and contrast the costs of different colleges;
 - *Financial Aid Application Checklist*, which allows students to track the different parts of their financial aid application;
 - *Financial Aid Consultants and Scholarship Search Services Fact Sheet*, which provides information on consultants and scholarship searches, and tips to avoid being scammed;
 - *Glossary of Financial Aid Terms*, which provides definitions of many financial aid terms for counselors, students, and families;

- *Sample Scholarship Inquiry Letter*, which gives students language and format to request scholarship information; and
- *Student Aid Program Summary*, which provides a summary of the major federal student aid programs for students and their families.

www.StudentAid.ed.gov

Website for students that provides information on federal aid programs, a college search, a scholarship search, a career interest inventory, and links to FAFSA, FAFSA4caster, and PIN sites.

What is available from this website:

- Federal Grant Programs Fact Sheet and Federal Loan Programs Fact Sheet, fact sheets that explain the federal aid programs; and
- Checklists such as the High School Checklist (by year) and Getting a Late Start?–Last Minute Checklist.

www.fafsa.ed.gov

What is available at this site:

FAFSA.gov is the website where students complete and submit *FAFSA on the Web*. Students and families may also print the *FAFSA on the Web Worksheet* and PDF FAFSA from the site. After submitting the FAFSA, students may use this site to check the status of their application, view processing results, and submit corrections.

http://www.fafsa4caster.ed.gov/

What is available on this site:

If students want to begin exploring their financial aid options and get an early start on the financial aid process, FAFSA4caster is for them! By using FAFSA4caster, students and families will receive an early estimate of eligibility for the Federal Pell Grant. This website provides students with an opportunity to increase their knowledge of the financial aid process.

https://fsaid.ed.gov

What is available on this site:

On this site, students and parents may apply for a FSA ID. An FSA ID is a username and password that you must use to log in to certain U.S. Department of Education (ED) websites. Your FSA ID identifies you as someone who has the right to access your own personal information on ED websites such as the *Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®)* at **fafsa.gov**. If you are a parent you will need your own FSA ID if you want to sign your child's FAFSA electronically. A FSA ID will also allow students to access application information after they submit the FAFSA, sign and access other financial aid documents such as loan promissory notes, and access loan information after they leave college.

<http://www.nasfaa.org/>

The Students, Parents, and Counselors section of the NASFAA website provides a variety of helpful information.

What you can find on this site:

- An interactive U.S. map which links to information about aid available from every state;
- *Cash for College*, an online brochure that offers basic facts about the student financial aid programs which is updated annually;
- *Parent and Student Guide to Federal Tax Benefits for Tuition and Fees*, provides guidance to help explain two tax credits offering federal income tax relief for college expenses—the American Opportunity Tax Credit and the Lifetime Learning Tax Credit—as well as available tax deductions for tuition and fees; and
- Information about state and regional tuition discount programs.

www.collegeaccess.org

This site functions as a site for counselors, access advisors and mentors with vast resources for college access in general.

www.finaid.org

This comprehensive website includes information about scholarships, loans, savings plans, and military aid. It also has information about other types of aid, aid applications, financial aid calculators, and an “Ask the Aid Advisor” feature for personalized assistance.

<https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/pay-for-college>

This site has a wealth of resources for financial aid planning, aid calculators, loans, and the CSS Profile (additional aid form required by some colleges).

<http://www.tgslc.org/spanish/glossary/index.cfm>

What you can search on this site:

A glossary that contains a comprehensive list of higher education related words, including financial aid terms, in Spanish.

Other Resources

Federal Trade Commission (FTC)

<http://www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/0082-scholarship-and-financial-aid-scams>

This website provides information on scholarship scams and an online complaint form.

www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/0341-file-complaint-ftc

Contact the FTC to file a complaint.

U.S. Department of Education Inspector General

Contact the Inspector General to report financial aid fraud.

<http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/oig/hotline.html>

1-800-MIS-USED

NT4CM 2017–18

